

State of California
Department of Water Resources
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Health Services

2002 RECYCLED WATER TASK FORCE
MINUTES OF
3 APRIL 2002 MEETING

Meeting Time and Location

10: 00 am-2: 30 pm, 3 April 2002, Training Rooms 1 East and West, Cal/EPA Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California.

Attendance

Task Force Members:

Rich Atwater	Rex S. Hime	Frances Spivy-Weber
Kirk Bone	Keith Israel	William J. Steele
Jerry D. Brown	Richard Katz	William T. VanWagoner
Dan Carlson	Denise L. Kruger	Bob Whitley
Bob S. Castle	Keith Lewinger	Patrick Wright
Herman C. Collins	Rick Martin	Marguerite Young
William R. Everest	Darryl G. Miller	
Kathy Fletcher	Jonas M. Minton	
Karen Furst	Mansour M. Nasser	
Steve Hall	Phillip J. Pace	
Earle Hartling	David P. Spath	

Task Force Substitutes:

Mamadou Beye for R. K. Spackman
Richard Carlson for Gary Erbeck
Stuart L. Posselt for Tom Morrison
Al Vargas for Steve Shaffer

Task Force Members Absent:

Takashi Asano
Laura Johnson
Gary Lynch
Tim Ramirez

Invited Guests:

Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg

Facilitator:

H. Eric Schockman

State Staff and Members of Public:
29 Persons (See attachment for complete list)

Summary of Proceedings

A. Introduction

The Chair of the Task Force, Richard Katz, Member of the State Water Resources Control Board, called the meeting to order. He noted the goal in the California Water Code to achieve one million acre-feet of recycled water use annually by the year 2010. To achieve this goal will require close cooperation and a collaborative effort.

Jonas Minton, Deputy Director of the Department of Water Resources, illustrated the need for additional water supplies to accommodate increasing population growth in California. He said that we needed a balanced approach in seeking new supplies and conserving usage. Water recycling is a prominent source in DWR's planning for additional supplies. He noted the concerns about the safety of recycled water and welcomed the identification of other concerns and issues by the Task Force.

Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg, author of Assembly Bill No. 331, which mandated the creation of the Task Force, spoke next. She outlined the issue areas presented in the bill and the deadline for the work of the Task Force. The phrase "toilet to tap" has led to the demise of recycled water projects. She emphasized that how water recycling is presented to the public is the key to its success. She felt that the Task Force presented an opportunity to bring together experts and people who understand the needs of the state and the issues surrounding recycled water. She realizes that the work may be enormous, but that a great many people will benefit from the Task Force. She thanked the members for their willingness to include the Task Force in their busy schedules. She said that water recycling has been a focus of her office and stressed the need to explain the importance of its role to the public.

Katz thanked Goldberg and committed the Task Force to live up to her expectations. He stressed the need for education of the public about the benefits of water recycling. Katz then introduced the facilitator for the Task Force meetings, Eric Schockman. He is an authority in public policy in California and serves as an Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Adjunct Associate Professor of the Southern California Studies Center at the University of Southern California.

State staff provided administrative information to the Task Force. Task Force members can receive reimbursement for travel expenses to attend the Task Force meetings. A handout was provided with guidance on how to request reimbursement.

An agenda (attached) and other handouts (list attached) were provided to Task Force members.

B. Task Force Mission and Initial Comments

Schockman pointed out the mission of the Task Force and the preliminary list of issues for consideration that had been prepared for the Task Force in a handout and posted on the walls for

reference. Each Task Force member was asked to provide a brief introduction and the most significant outcome desired for the Task Force. The thoughts expressed during this round of participation are summarized as follows:

1. The Task Force recommendations should make the case for water recycling. There is still concern regarding the costs and benefits. A report should outline the benefits, direct and indirect, and related costs of water recycling. By taking a candid and realistic look, there will be a better case for water reuse.
2. There is a need for a statewide coalition for water reuse to avoid the North vs South factions common in water issues in California.
3. There needs to be a clear recognition by government leaders that reclaimed water has a role in the state and there is a need for a coordinated and comprehensive program.
4. The Task Force should clarify how water reuse fits into the overall water resources picture of California.
5. There is a need for consensus on the costs, benefits, and unknowns regarding water reuse.
6. The Task Force needs to clearly communicate with the public about the Task Force goals, as opposed to the state goals. The Task Force is to reach consensus on the Task Force goals as stated in AB331, not on the state goals for recycled water.
7. Equity issues need to be addressed in the applications of recycled water and the populations exposed to it. This comes into play particularly in the distribution of recycled water.
8. Successful implementation of water recycling is a collaborative effort. Interagency cooperation is essential.
9. As the uses of recycled water become more diverse, the complexities also increase.
10. We need to promote the best quality recycled water.
11. Wastewater discharged to the ocean is wasted. We need to find ways to use this water, especially in Southern California.
12. Reclaimed water is a resource that should not be wasted.
13. While we have a good handle on the problems associated with water reuse, we need concrete steps to address them so that state agencies have the ability to use and implement the steps.

14. The Task Force needs to develop a meaningful document, well reasoned and referenced, including
 - a. identification of obstacles and impediments to water reuse
 - b. a specific action plan with realistic goals
 - c. strategies and time lines to accomplish the actions
 - d. a recommended list of legislative actions.
15. The Task Force should identify the top ten changes needed and the actions or strategies to accomplish them.
16. A ten-year time span may be the most realistic for a plan of action.
17. There is a desire for regulatory streamlining to move projects more efficiently.
18. There is a need for clear and concise regulatory direction.
19. If a new standard culminates from a building code issue, it should be protective of public health and easy to understand. For example, the graywater standards require an air gap or a device that is undefined. This lack of clarity has caused confusion in the application of the code.
20. Regulatory agencies need to coordinate and cooperate to achieve a unified approach.
21. The State should take on a role of facilitation of local projects, helping local government to implement projects.
22. The appropriate roles of state and federal agencies should be addressed. With respect to funding, CALFED does not have an independent source of funds; it relies on other agencies.
23. Financing is an important issue. The State Water Project and CALFED should provide financial assistance to water recycling.
24. There is a need to develop creative financing ideals to encourage water recycling.
25. There should be a clearly articulated policy that water recycling should be economically rational and financially practical.
26. The Task Force should promote the projects that “give the biggest bang for the buck,” not just any project.
27. There is a need to look at technologies to provide recycled water in a more economical manner.
28. There is a need for a how-to book with a road map to successful implementation of a water recycling project.

29. We need to change the paradigm that reclaimed water is a form of wastewater. All regulations treat reclaimed water as “toilet” water and it never loses this wastewater identity regardless of the amount of treatment. There is a problem with the so-called “one molecule rule,” that is, so long as recycled water is considered to have any constituent of wastewater origin, it must be treated as wastewater. This regulatory concept may threaten future projects.
30. Water recycling should be part of an integrated program that addresses both the users of the recycled water and the indirect beneficiaries, such as the environment, when recycled water offsets the use of other water sources. For example, Mono Lake is an environmental beneficiary when reclaimed water is used in the City of Los Angeles.
31. The Task Force should look at past reports on water reclamation and reuse, such as *Water Recycling 2000: California’s plan for the future* by the State Water Conservation Coalition Reclamation/Re-use Task Force and the Bay Delta Reclamation Sub-Work Group in September 1991. They should list the findings and recommendations of these reports, and record any follow-up work on the recommendations.
32. There is a need for greater understanding of the science substantiating the safety of recycled water so that health officials can effectively articulate its safety to the public.
33. Public acceptance and perceptions are important. Public perceptions should be addressed and taken seriously. There is a need for more public education. Established safeguards, which protect public and ecosystem health, should be articulated to the public to instill consumer confidence.
34. There should be a consensus on the “real” impediments vs. the “perceived” impediments. Strategies are needed to address these public perceptions.

C. Issues for Consideration

Schockman then directed the meeting to the next phase of focusing on the “Preliminary List of Issues for Consideration,” April 2002. Some general thoughts that were expressed were that public perception has become a key issue in recent years. Yet, public acceptance is very high in some areas. While the science supporting current public health regulations is quite good, perhaps public education has been inadequate to engender public confidence in certain projects. He asked members to suggest any additions to the list. Some issues related to water rights were raised. Katz noted that AB 331 specifically excluded water rights issues from the scope of the Task Force and determined that the Task Force should avoid this realm to avoid bogging down the Task Force.

The following items were suggested:

1. Provide an overall current assessment of the science regarding public health and recycled water treatment and use.
2. Determine the current public perceptions and acceptance of water recycling.
3. Provide consistently high funding for an ongoing program of public education.
4. Use academic institutions for more basic and applied research on wastewater reuse.
5. Address social equity in the distribution of recycled water.
6. Address the issue of laws governing duplication of service in dual distribution systems involving recycled water. Consider the financial protection of investments in water systems.
7. Consider the positive environmental impacts of water recycling “upstream,” that is, on the environment at the sources of supply of fresh water. Using recycled water leaves fresh water in streams or lakes.
8. Address the potential for high nutrient-laden recycled water contaminating groundwater basins.
9. Address the issue of salinity in terms of both the source water quality and the impacts of reclaimed water salinity.
10. Regulate water softeners locally to protect the recycled water for reuse.
11. Consider the benefits of water recycling in complying with increasingly stringent water quality requirements in the discharge of wastewater into receiving waters.
12. Consider the negative environmental effects on a receiving water due to removing a wastewater discharge for reuse.
13. Consider stormwater as a potential water resource. (It was noted that this subject may be outside of the purview of the Task Force.)
14. Provide a rigorous analysis of the true costs and benefits of water recycling. Establish that recycling is the economically rational thing to do.
15. The economic justification of water recycling should be based on comparison with new sources of water, not existing sources.
16. Explain what the economic criterion is for state funding of water recycling projects.

17. There is not a single answer for economic benefit. Each situation must be addressed individually.
18. The benefits of water reuse often accrue statewide but the costs for projects are often borne at the local level. Upstream and downstream benefits may not be identified at all.
19. Provide an incentive for land developers to install water recycling systems, for example, fee relief.
20. Seasonal storage facilities are needed near the wastewater treatment plant to store recycled water when it is not needed.
21. Consider the impact of recycled water on water supply reliability by providing a backup supply.
22. Compile the recommendations from previous task forces and the outcome of those recommendations.
23. Evaluate whether to reconvene the California Potable Reuse Committee.
24. Provide an action plan in the Task Force report.
25. A plan is needed for the planning and design of water distribution systems which incorporates water recycling. This plan should include ways to integrate water recycling requirements into current distribution system infrastructure.
26. The Water Code is ambiguous on the use of reclaimed water and needs clarification. It is permissive rather than an enforceable instrument.
27. Use of recycled water for industry should be enforced.
28. Take note that tax breaks or incentives for one entity may mean additional tax or financial burden for others.
29. Drawing from the initial round of comments: Consider financial assistance for water recycling from CALFED and the State Water Project.

D. Workgroups

At this point Schockman suggested that Task Force members and State staff form into workgroups to address specific issues or issue areas. He suggested that the workgroups report back to the Task Force. Katz suggested that the more technical issues could be addressed by the workgroups while the Task Force as a whole sets priorities for the workgroups. It was proposed that volunteers who are not Task Force members be allowed to participate in the workgroups, in

part to capture special expertise. The members informally agreed to this proposal. Katz stated that the names of all participants in workgroups should be identified.

After discussion the consensus was that four workgroups should be established initially. People in attendance volunteered or suggested others to be in the workgroups. The topics and associated volunteers are as follows:

1. Plumbing Code: Bob Castle, Keith Lewinger, Richard Carlson, Cheryl Muñoz (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission), outside code expert (e.g., International Plumbing Code representative)
2. Economics: Department of Water Resources economists
3. Science/Public Health/Academic Research: Takashi Asano, Karen Furst, Richard Carlson, Bob Hultquist (Department of Health Services), John Withers (Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region)
4. CALFED: Steve Hall, Frances Spivy-Weber, Marguerite Young, Patrick Wright, Martha Davis (Inland Empire Utilities Agency), Luana Kiger (Department of Water Resources), Diana Robles (State Water Resources Control Board)
5. Public Education and Outreach: Frances Spivy-Weber, Marguerite Young, Herman C. Collins. Their purpose is to provide recommendations on how to include early involvement and public participation as the Task Force is developing the report and meetings; i.e. hold a session in conjunction with the Public Officials for Water and Environmental Reform (P.O.W.E.R.) Conference.

To assist the Task Force and workgroups, there were several suggestions:

1. Prepare a list of various types of existing and potential recycled water uses, including various commercial uses, and identify the impediments to each of these.
2. Create a matrix of all of the issues and four general categories that they fall into:
 - a. Commercial/industrial
 - b. Indirect potable reuse
 - c. Integration into water resources, jurisdictional issues
 - d. All other water recycling issues
3. Staff should suggest additional members for the workgroups.
4. Staff should bring back to the Task Force a recommended strategy for the workgroups and the Task Force proceedings.
5. Panel members should provide staff with information and studies to assist staff in preparing background information for the full Task Force.

6. Staff will compile the recommendations of previous task forces and the outcomes.

Because of the more clearly definable nature of the plumbing code issues, it was suggested that this workgroup could begin activity before the next Task Force meeting. The issues related to public education and outreach will be dealt with by the Task Force at large.

E. Future Meetings

A handout was provided (attached) with proposed meeting dates for the Task Force. This schedule appeared to be agreeable to the members. The next meeting of the Task Force will be in conjunction with the 2002 Annual Water Reuse Research Conference at the Manhattan Beach Marriott in Los Angeles on June 3, 2002. Whitley will arrange for Task Force members to attend the conference that day without charge. The research issues will be brought up at a special session on June 4 of the conference.

There was discussion of using venues, other than the scheduled meetings of the Task Force, to obtain input. The Public Education and Outreach workgroup will have the specific mission to advise staff of potential meetings where the Task Force can obtain input from groups concerned with issues of environmental justice and equity distribution of recycled water. The first planned venue is at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) 2002 Spring Conference in Monterey on May 8, 2002. A public hearing session is planned as part of the conference. A panel of state staff and a few Task Force members will present the mission of the Task Force and solicit public comments. ACWA will be asked to waive conference fees for panel members on that day.

An additional venue that was suggested was the P.O.W.E.R. Conference taking place on October 9-10, 2002 in Los Angeles, which provides access to a number of the environmental justice groups, and is located within easy access to a large number of groups. More suggestions will be accepted.

2002 RECYCLED WATER TASK FORCE ATTENDEES AT 3 APRIL 2002 MEETING

Rich Atwater	Chief Executive Officer, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Kareen Baker	City of Fresno Wastewater Management
Fethi BenJemaa	Department of Water Resources
Mamadou Beye	Chevron Texaco
Kirk Bone	Serrano Associates LLC
Jerry D. Brown	Director of Planning, Contra Costa Water District
Roger Canfield	Department of Water Resources
Dan Carlson	Capital Projects Manager, Utilities Department, City of Santa Rosa
Richard Carlson	Environmental Health Specialist III, San Diego County
	Department of Environmental Health, Land and Water Quality Division
Bob S. Castle	Water Quality Manager, Marin Municipal Water District
Herman C. Collins	President Collins Strategic Group, Inc.
Rosario Cortes	Legislative Advocate, WaterReuse Association
William R. Everest	Associate General Manager, Orange County Water District
Kathy Fletcher	Deputy Secretary for External Affairs, California Environmental Protection Agency
Karen Furst, M.D.	Health Officer, San Joaquin County Public Health Services
Kathryn Gies	West Yost & Associates
Jackie Goldberg	Member of the Assembly, California State Legislature
Craig J. Hair, Jr.	District Manager, Trinity County Waterworks District #1
Steve Hall	Director, Association of California Water Agencies
Richard Harris	Legislative Advocate, WaterReuse Association
Earle Hartling	Water Recycling Coordinator, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Anthony Hernandez	CH2M HILL
Rex Hime	President and Chief Executive Officer, California Business Properties Association
Bob Hultquist	Department of Health Services
Keith Israel	Manager, Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
Fawzi Karajeh	Department of Water Resources
Richard Katz	Board Member, California State Water Resources Control Board
Luana Kiger	Department of Water Resources, Office of Water Use Efficiency
Nancy King	Department of Water Resources
John Kramer	Department of Water Resources
Denise L. Kruger	Vice President Customer Service Region II, Southern California Water Company
Rosa Lau-Staggs	City of Fresno Wastewater Management
Keith Lewinger	Director, San Diego County Water Authority
David T. Lewis	Project Manager, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region Division of Planning
Rick Martin	U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
Cindy Megerdgian	El Dorado Irrigation District
Darryl G. Miller	General Manager, Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts
Richard Mills	California State Water Resources Control Board
Jonas Minton	Deputy Director, Department of Water Resources
Cliff Moriyama	California Business Properties Association
Cheryl Muñoz	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Mansour M. Nasser	Water Utility Manager, San Jose Municipal Water System, City of San Jose
Wendy Notsinnneh	Assembly Member Jackie Goldberg's Office
Art O'Brien	City of Roseville
Phillip J. Pace	Chairman, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Stuart Posselt	California Building Standards Commission

Wendy Ridderbusch	Association of California Water Agencies
Syed M. Rizvi	North Marin Water District
Diana Robles	California State Water Resources Control Board
Ruben Robles	Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
H. Eric Schockman	University of Southern California
Bahman Sheikh, Ph.D., P.E.	Water Reuse Consultant
Tracy Slavin	U. S. Bureau of Reclamation-Sacramento
David P. Spath	Chief, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management, Department of Health Services
Frances Spivy-Weber	Executive Director, Mono Lake Committee
William Steele	Area Manager, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Southern California Area Office
Kenn Vance	Assembly Member Jackie Goldberg's Office
William T. VanWagoner	Project Manager, East Valley Water Recycling Project, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Al Vargas	California Dept of Food and Agriculture
Bob Whitley	President, WaterReuse Association, California Section
John B. Withers	Board Member, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Patrick Wright	Executive Director, CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Marguerite Young	California Program Director, California Clean Water Action

2002 RECYCLED WATER TASK FORCE
LIST OF HANDOUT MATERIALS FOR 3 APRIL 2002 MEETING

1. The 2002 Recycled Water Task Force Meeting, April 3, 2002 Agenda
2. Department of Water Resources, "Preliminary List of Issues for Consideration", April 2002
3. Department of Water Resources, "2002 Recycled Water Task Force Members," April 2002
4. "2002 Recycled Water Task Force, Proposed meetings dates"
5. State Water Resources Control Board, Rules for Reimbursement of Task Force-Related Travel, 4/2/02
6. State of California, "Travel Expense Claim" form STD 262 A-SWRCB (REV. 4/98)
7. Assembly Bill No. 331
8. California State Water Resources Control Board, "California Municipal Wastewater Reclamation Survey", May 24, 2000 (Text, summary table, California map)
9. The California Potable Reuse Committee, "A Proposed Framework for Regulating the Indirect Potable Reuse of Advanced Treated Reclaimed Water by Surface Water Augmentation in California", January 1996
10. California State Water Resources Control Board, "Policy and Action Plan for Water Reclamation in California", January 1977
11. "California Health Laws Related to Recycled Water, 'The Purple Book'", June 2001 Edition
12. "Water Recycling: The Future is Here!, Draft Report of the Bureau of Reclamation's Water Recycling Team to the Commissioner", Executive Summary, December 1996
13. 1998 California Plumbing Code, Appendix J, Reclaimed Water Systems for Non-Residential Buildings
14. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Department of Health Services and the State Water Resources Control Board on Use of Reclaimed Water, 20 February 1996
15. Letters of Support for Assembly Bill No. 331, 15 letters dated 15 May-20 September 2001.
16. Governor's Advisory Drought Planning Panel, "Critical Water Shortage Contingency Plan", 29 December 2000
17. Department of Water Resources, "Preparing for California's Next Drought: Changes Since 1987-92", July 2000
18. California State Water Resources Control Board, "California Municipal Wastewater Reclamation in 1987", June 1990
19. State Water Resources Control Board, Department of Water Resources, Department of Health Services, "Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Groundwater Recharge with Reclaimed Water", November 1987

THE 2002 RECYCLED WATER TASK FORCE MEETING

**April 3, 2002 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
CAL/EPA Building
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California**

AGENDA

First session: Opening (10:00-12:00) -- Introductory comments and introduction of Panel members

- ♦ Welcome statement - DWR Deputy Director Jonas Minton
- ♦ Introductory comments by Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg
- ♦ Introductory comments by State Water Resources Control Board Member and the Taskforce Chairman Richard Katz
- ♦ Self introduction of the Task Force members

Lunch Break (12:00-1:15)

***Second Session: Task Force Called for Business - Richard Katz
(1:15-3:00)***

- ♦ Identification and discussion of meeting procedures and guidelines for conduct of Task Force meetings
- ♦ Identification and discussion of issues to be addressed by the Task Force, as stated in Water Code Section 13578 (Assembly Bill 331), including impediments and constraints to increasing the use of recycled water in industrial and commercial applications, revisions to the California Plumbing Code to facilitate the use of recycled water, and changes in state statutes, regulations, ordinances and permits dealing with recycled water
- ♦ Discussion of work strategy and Task Force timetable to be developed further at a future meeting or meetings
- ♦ Discussion of the current status of the use of recycled water in industrial and commercial applications; including possible opportunities to increase its use
- ♦ Public questions and comments
- ♦ Discussion of items to be included in the next meeting agenda
- ♦ Next meeting place and date
- ♦ Adjourn

2002 Recycled Water Task Force Proposed Meeting Dates

Meeting	Date	Place	Remarks
I	April 3 (Wednesday), 2002	CAL/EPA Building, Sacramento	Completed- The minute proceedings is being finalized
	May 8 (Wednesday), 2002	Monterey Conference Center, Monterey	Public hearing session- ACWA's 2002 Spring Conference
II	June 3 (Monday), 2002	Manhattan Beach Marriott, Los Angeles	2002 Annual Water Reuse Research Conference
III	July 12 (Friday), 2002	San Jose	
IV	September 12 (Thursday), 2002	Sacramento	
V	November 19 (Tuesday), 2002	Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim	ACWA's 2002 Fall Conference
VI	January 10 (Thursday), 2003	Sacramento	
VII	February 27 (Thursday), 2003	San Francisco	WaterReuse Association, California Section Annual Meeting